

A Perspective from EPA's Office of Water

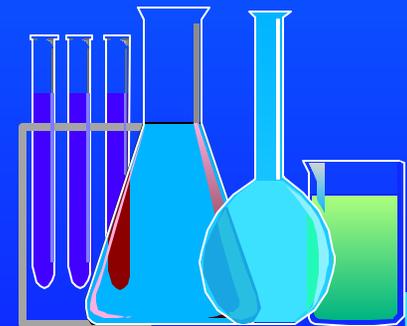
Pharmaceuticals in Water



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Health & Ecological Criteria Division
November 14, 2000

Health & Ecological Criteria Division

- **Develop Human Health & Ecological Risk Assessments**
- **Set Maximum Contaminant Level Goals (MCLGs)**
- **Make recommendations to the Office of Water**
- **Assigned to monitor developments**



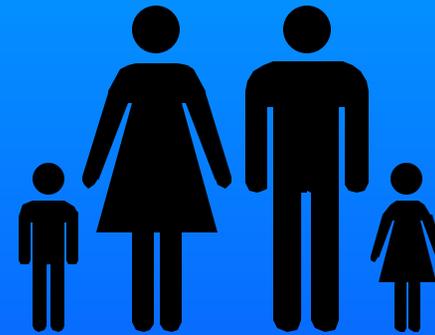
Legislative Authorities

- **Safe Drinking Water Act**

- ▶ **MCLs, MCLGs**

- ▶ **Public utilities**

- ▶ **Human health risks**



- **Clean Water Act**

- ▶ **Surface waters**

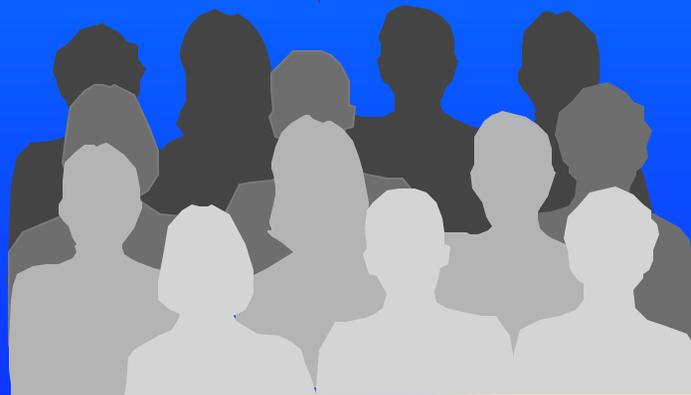
- ▶ **Human & aquatic risks**

- ▶ **Fish, wildlife, ecological health**

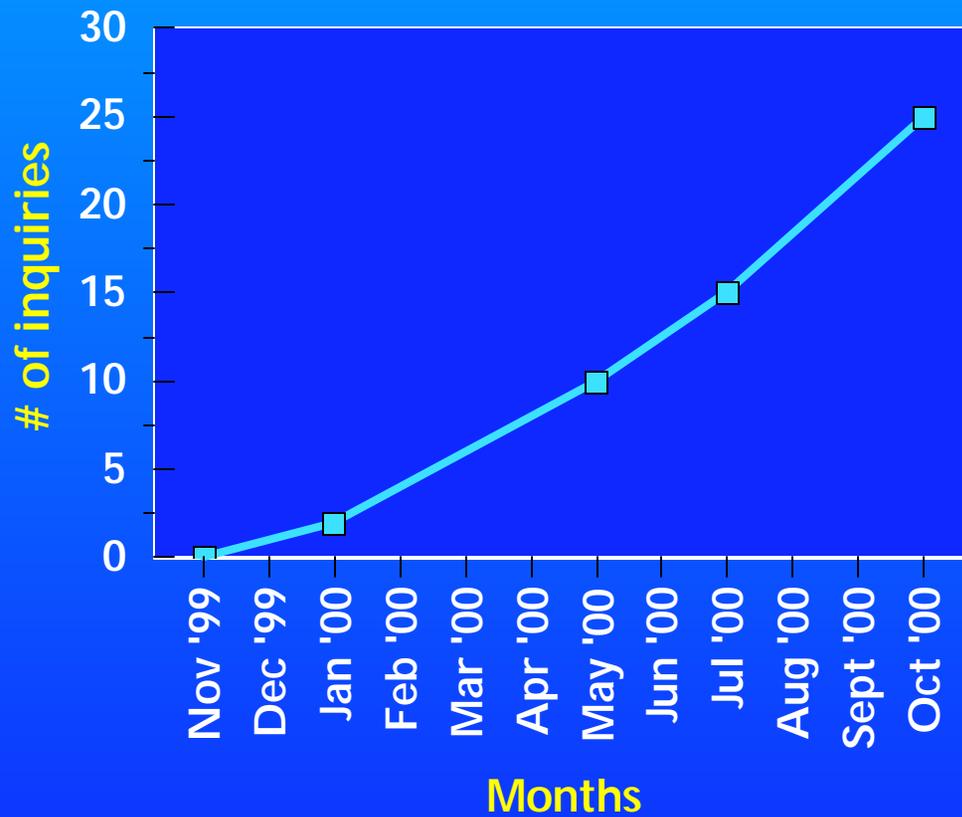
Chronology of Key Events

- Raloff's "Drugged Waters" - 3/98
- Daughton et al.'s "PPCPs in the Environment" - 12/99
- American Chemical Society - 3/00
- American Water Works Association
5/00
- National Ground Water Association 6/00

Public Concern

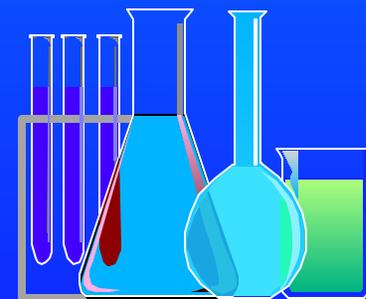


Public Inquiries



HECD Initiatives

- Participation in ORD's Endocrine Disruptor Research Implementation Plan
- Evaluation of the Removal of Potentially Hormonally Active Compounds by Drinking Water Treatment Processes (U.S. EPA Test and Evaluation (T&E) Facility)
Cincinnati, OH



HECD Initiatives cont...

Literature Database

- **Bi-monthly search of scientific databases, newspaper publications, and World Wide Web**
- **Contains articles dating from 1975 - August 2000**
- **Categories include analytical methods, antibiotic resistance, surface, ground and drinking water, toxicity, and policy**
- **Searchable by keyword, author and title**
- **Includes hard copies of each article**

HECD's Perspective

- Insufficient data for risk assessment
- Proactivity is important
- US research needed

